



Request for City Council Committee Action
Office of the City Coordinator (Community Planning & Economic Development)

Date February 11, 2003

To Ways & Means/ Budget Committee

Submitted by Kim W. Havey, Minneapolis Empowerment Zone, 673-5415

Approved by Lee Sheehy, Community Planning and Economic Development

Subject Authorize city officers to execute a contract with DJR Architecture, Inc. for predevelopment costs related to the redevelopment of Nicollet-Lake.

Presenters in Committee Kim W. Havey, Director, Minneapolis Empowerment Zone

Recommendation

- (1) Authorize city officers to execute a contract with DJR Architecture, Inc. setting forth the terms and conditions of an agreement for \$150,000 in federal Empowerment Zone funds.

Financial Impact

- ☒ No financial impact or Action is within current budget.
- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- ☐ Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- ☐ Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- ☐ Other financial impact (Explain):
- ☐ Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information

On May 17, 2002 the City Council approved \$150,000 in federal Empowerment Zone (EZ) funds for Nicollet Lake, and a contract with Sherman Associates. Since that time the lead implementing agency in the predevelopment efforts has become DJR Architecture, Inc. The staff recommendation is to enter into a contract with DJR Architecture, Inc. Staff has met with DJR Architecture, Inc. and Sherman Associates. Both organizations agree upon the change in recipient of Empowerment Zone funds.

The pre-development of Nicollet-Lake is the beginning steps in an effort to revitalize the Nicollet-Lake business node and re-open Nicollet Avenue. This would support the entrepreneurial businesses both north and south of Lake Street. The project has four main goals:

- Revitalization of the commercial and retail business node;
- Creation of new housing;
- Greater connection to adjacent neighborhoods and business nodes;
- Enhanced transit access via the Midtown Greenway and I-35.